

# Tham Wiang Kae Highland Development Project Using Royal Project System



## Background

In 1971, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Her Majesty Queen Sirikit visited the people of Ban Tham Wiang Kae and assigned the Royal Project Foundation to provide assistance and advice on fruit tree cultivation. They also introduced lychee varieties to the people. Since then, the Highland Research and Development Institute has operated the area under the name "Tham Wiang Kae Royal Project Extension Area," which later changed to "Tham Wiang Kae Highland Development Project Using Royal Project System."

## Geography

The area is mountainous at 436 - 676 meters above sea level

## Climate

The Southwest Monsoon brings rain clouds to the area, causing rainfall from May to September. The Northeast Monsoon brings cold weather to the area from October to February. The summer season occurs in March-April. The average temperature throughout the year is 26.62°C.

## Population

There are 4,856 of Hmong, Tai Lue, and Mien people in 6 villages.

## Career

Most of the people are farmers, while some engage in handicrafts and sell forest products.

## Problems and development guidelines

To develop the Tham Wiang Kae villagers and the area, HRDI assists them in several dimensions. First, in terms of career development, the Highland Development Project has promoted alternative occupations to farmers. These include inside and outside greenhouse cultivation, increasing crop yield, planting fruit trees in suitable area, highland livestock and fisheries, and local and applied handicrafts. Second, in terms of environment, forest fires occur during the dry season. Consequently, a budget has been allocated for monitoring and preventing forest fires. In addition, to raise awareness about the use chemicals in agriculture, farmers are encouraged to adopt biological and organic farming practices. Last, in terms of infrastructures, the cooperation of related agencies has provided transportation routes for the villages. However, only the agricultural areas still have dirt roads. Additionally, the villages could access to electricity, telephone services, education, and public health facilities.



## Main produces of the center

Sweet pepper, Thomas tomatoes, Cherry tomatoes Japanese cucumber, Pumpkin, mango, lychee, grape, melon, macadamia, avocado, red lentils, soybeans, Belgian rice.



## Location

Moo 1, Na Rai Luang Sub-district, Song Khwae District, Nan 55160